Moran Corrects H1N1 News

Contacts Broadcasters about Common Mislabeling of Disease

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran contacted all major news broadcasting companies after observing network news anchors incorrectly referencing the H1N1 virus as "swine flu." Moran contacted news producers requesting that broadcast reporters and anchors refer to the disease by the proper name, H1N1.

"The 'swine flu' catchphrase recently coined by the mainstream broadcast media is negatively impacting many farm families in Kansas and across the nation," Moran said. "Broadcast news anchors and reporters are referring to the H1N1 incorrectly and mislabeling the virus to the American public. The incorrect use of the term 'swine flu' confuses consumers and leads them to believe that pork is unsafe to eat. This incorrect reference is having a negative effect on America's pork producers. News outlets have a responsibility to deliver accurate information to the public; therefore, I asked that future reporters refer to this disease by its correct name, H1N1."

Recently the House Committee on Agriculture held a hearing on the economic conditions facing the pork industry. During that hearing the Committee learned that H1N1 has led to nearly \$1.317 billion in lost revenue for the U.S. pork industry over the last six months.

<u>Click here</u> to read Moran's letter to news producers.

Moran is a senior member of the House Committee on Agriculture.

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